

## **Water Connections**

Many bureaus in the DNR have water connections. Here are a few of our Web resources:

### **Best Management Practices for Water Quality!**

What do forests have to do with water quality? What can forest landowners do to help maintain good water quality in Wisconsin? Read about *Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality!*

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/usesof/bmp/bmp.htm>

### **Coastal Wetlands of Wisconsin's Great Lakes – A Data Compilation and Assessment**

The state of Wisconsin is bordered by Lake Superior to the northwest and Lake Michigan to the east. The 820 miles of combined shoreline make up a complex arrangement of ecosystems that contain a rich variety of natural features. Wetlands near the coasts of both lakes provide rich habitat for plants and animals and greatly influence the larger ecosystem processes of the Great Lakes Ecosystem. Find out how DNR's assessment of existing coastal wetland data is used to determine ecologically significant coastal wetland sites within the Lake Michigan and Lake Superior basins.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/publications/cw/#Projects>

### **EEK! Environmental Education for Kids**

Visit *EEK!*, DNR's award winning web site for kids and teachers, and find all sorts of neat information and activities on water, wetlands, wildlife, fish and much more. Browse or use the "search engine" to find water and wetland topics.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/EEK/>

### **Fun In and On The Water**

Whether swimming, fishing, water-skiing or relaxing on the beach, Wisconsin State Parks and Forests are the perfect places to experience the wet outdoors.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/water.html>

### **Natural Community Descriptions**

Wisconsin's location at the junction of three of North America's biotic provinces – the eastern deciduous forest, the northern boreal forest and the temperate grasslands – contributes to the state's tremendous wealth of species and natural communities. About 1800 species of native plants and 657 species of native vertebrates have been identified in Wisconsin. In addition, there are thousands of nonvascular plant and invertebrate species. Learn more about the tremendous variety of Wisconsin's aquatic and terrestrial communities in Wisconsin's Natural Heritage Inventory.

[http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/rare/natcomm\\_descripts.htm](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/rare/natcomm_descripts.htm)

### **Public Wildlife Recreation Land**

Find out where you can hunt, fish, hike, canoe, or watch wildlife on many of DNR's larger state properties.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/reclands/>

### **Safe Drinking Water and Clean Water Fund Loans**

The DNR administers two water loan programs.

The *Safe Drinking Water Loan Program* provides loans for operators of public water systems to build, upgrade, or replace water supply infrastructure to protect public health and address federal and state safe drinking water requirements.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/EL/Section/drinkingwater.html>

The *Clean Water Fund Loan Program* provides loans to municipalities for wastewater treatment and urban storm water projects.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/EL/Section/clean.html>

### **Wisconsin Wetland Wonderlands**

From the calcareous fens near Waukesha to the sedge meadows in Cherokee Marsh, to the tamarack forests of northwestern Wisconsin, wetlands cover a dazzling array of landscapes.

They share in common the ability to support aquatic or "water loving" plants, and they provide habitat for more species of plants and animals than any other type of landscape.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/wetlands/index.shtml>